

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00
SIL-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-01 /108 W
-----192223Z 086149 /45

R 190725Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6487
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1263

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLAB, ILO, AG
SUBJECT: ILO 63RD INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC)

REF: STATE 104925; STATE 102699; STATE 103404; STATE 104945;
STATE 105258

1. CHARGE MAY 18 DISCUSSED US POSITION ON ILO WITH AISSA BRAHIM, ACTING CHIEF OF DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF FONMIN HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING ALGERIAN ILO POSITIONS. CONFUSION REMAINING FROM RECENT GOVERNMENTAL SHAKEUP, INCLUDED APPOINTMENT OF NEW MINISTER OF LABOR, MAKES BRAHIM LOGICAL POINT OF CONTACT.

2. CHARGE OUTLINED IN DETAIL BACKGROUND TO CURRENT SITUATION, CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF CONFERENCE, US VIEW OF PROGRESS TO DATE, AND ITS POSITION ON CRITICAL CONFERENCE ISSUES AND ON STRUCTURE. CHARGE STRESSED REPEATEDLY IMPORTANCE US ATTACHED TO THIS DEMARCHE, TO ITS MEMBERSHIP IN ILO, AND TO ITS DESIRE TO SEE ILO CREATE CONDITIONS WHICH WILL ENABLE US TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE.

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3. BRAHIM STRESSED ALGERIAN DESIRE TO REACH "UNDERSTANDING" WITH US ON POINTS AT ISSUE. HE SAID ALGERIAN DELEGATION WOULD BE HEADED BY MINISTER OF LABOR MOHAMED AMIR AND ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR IN GENEVA BOUDJAKDJI. HE STRESSED THAT ALGERIANS BELIEVED WITHDRAWAL OF US FROM ILO WOULD SERIOUSLY HAMPER EFFECTIVENESS OF ORGANIZATION AND THAT ALGERIANS WOULD DO EVERYTHING THEY COULD TO ACCOMMODATE

US VIEWS.

4. NEVERTHELESS, BRAHIM SAID, ALGERIA BOUND BY ITS PAST POSITIONS AND BY ITS COMMITMENTS TO ARAB AND OAU LABOR GROUPS. IN HIS DISCUSSION OF ALGERIAN POSITION ON ISRAEL RESOLUTION, ARTICLE 17, AND STRUCTURE, IT BECAME CLEAR THAT ALGERIAN POSITION DEAMETRICALLY OPPOSED TO OURS ON EVERY POINT.

5. CHARGE REWPONDED THAT, WHILE WE APPRECIATED ALGERIAN SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING, IF ALGERIAN POSITION ON ISSUES WERE APPROVED BY CONFERENCE OUR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN ILO WOULD BE DIFFICULT. HE STRESSED THAT US DOES NOT DESIRE LEAVE ILO BUT IS IN FACT PREPARED TO DEPART. HE STRESSED AGAIN IMPORTANCE US ATTACHED TO DEMARCHE AND TO NECESSITY OF CREATING CONDITIONS WHICH WOULD PERMIT OUR CONTINUED PARTICIAPTION.

7. BRAHIM, SPEAKING IN ENGLISH FOR FIRST TIME DURING HOUR-LONG MEETING, RESPONDED SOURLY: "WE GET THE MESSAGE."

8. COMMENT: BRAHIM'S COMMENTS AND MINISTER OF LABOR AMIR'S HEADING OF ALGERIAN DELEGATION SUGGESTS ALGERIANS UNLIKELY TO BE HELPFUL AT CONFERENCE. BRAHIM WAS UNYIELDING ON SUBSTANCE, PARTICULARLY ON ISRAEL QUESTION, AND AMIR HAS REPUTATION OF BEING HARD-NOSED ANTI-AMERICAN ARAB AND SOCIALIST FANATIC.

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 19-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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